

A proposal / call to action: from the river to the sea

as the last sky falls (we dream of peace)

We are coming together in the urgency of the present - a moment, not just 75 years, but [106+ years in the making](#) - to think about Palestine. *Palestine* exists before and beyond current narratives of occupation and resistance. Yet it calls upon us to reflect upon our own positionalities towards notions of indigeneity, settler colonialism, Western imperialism, apartheid, [environmental justice](#), and liberation.

The Palestinian struggle holds space for transnational allyships. Tyranny has been tested on the Palestinian people for almost a century and exported elsewhere. Technologies perfected through Israeli apartheid are used to surveil, oppress, incarcerate, and murder; from [Black Lives Matter](#) to [Kashmir](#), and [Armenia](#) to [Ethiopia](#). The [US](#), [UK](#), [Canada](#), [EU](#), and other states fund Israel's apartheid technologies and military budgets to the tune of billions of dollars annually. Bi-lateral [research agreements and grants](#) to Israeli universities develop the logics and mechanisms of Palestinian oppression. Most of us are implicated in the Palestinian struggle because we pay for it.

Palestine's presence in Western consciousness is fleeting, tied to cycles of violence. Histories of Palestine that do not intersect with its oppression are rarely centered or acknowledged. This creates a media environment susceptible to misinformation campaigns. We've seen recent attempts by states implicated in Israel's apartheid regime to [manipulate](#) and [fabricate](#) evidence for Western audiences. Mainstream media's amplification of this propaganda has been likened to the misinformation campaigns we saw [in the wake of 9/11](#). The [long and dehumanizing conditions](#) experienced by Palestinians under occupation, and the aspirations of Palestinian people beyond tropes of terror and victimhood are ignored.

Unfortunately Palestine's future largely hinges on public opinion and governments in the West, who [actively escalate the violence](#). Acts of popular resistance and civil disobedience in solidarity with Palestine have been [mischaracterized](#), [suppressed](#), and [criminalized](#) in many Western states. [Students](#), [doctors](#), [scholars](#), [politicians](#), [authors](#), [unions](#), [artists](#), and others have also been reprimanded for opposing apartheid and genocide. At a moment when performative and symbolic commitments towards "decolonization" are coming into question, operational solidarities towards Palestine's liberation are critical. It's time for us to push back.

A CALL TO ACTION AND PARTICIPATION

In order to elucidate narratives otherwise blurred by xenophobic, anti-Arab and Islamophobic media, we are calling on our national and international art communities to join us in a proactive project that responds to this moment. In doing so, we hope to sustain a movement in support of the Palestinian liberation struggle, a fight we know has a long road ahead.

We'd like to propose a series of screenings and presentations in solidarity with Palestine. We hope to support underrepresented narratives, initiate dialogue, and nurture systems of care. This is a step towards organizing for Palestine's future, and our collective liberation.

In order to maximize the impacts of this work, we imagine this project as a series of collaborative events hosted by multiple institutions and people like you. They will be linked under the common banner **'from the river to the sea'**. We will be working with our peers from the emerging *Artists for Palestine* group to weave action and education into our programming. The format will range from talks, reading groups, primers on the BDS movement, and discussions methodologies in the cultural sector for enacting political change.

Now is not the time for equivocating, we urge you to take a stance against active genocide, before it's too late.

على هذه الأرض ما يستحق الحياة

On this land, there is what makes life worth living

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fromtherivertotheseaproject@gmail.com